



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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~ Media Advisory ~

Pandemic Illness Brochure Mailed to City & Central Lane County Residents

Meeting of Lane Preparedness Coalition scheduled for today at 1:30

A coalition of city and county agencies wants all citizens to learn how to prepare for the possibility of a world wide epidemic, known as a pandemic. A brochure entitled "Pandemic illness, are you ready?" is scheduled to begin mailing to over 130,000 households in Lane County next week. The brochure is being mailed with the regular FireMed Ambulance Membership materials. Envelopes are clearly marked on the front with a picture of the brochure and the words "important Lane County Public Health information enclosed."

The Lane Preparedness Coalition (LPC) includes a partnership of public and private agencies in Lane County with a focus on disaster preparedness. LPC received a grant from Bi-Mart to cover the cost of printing and FireMed agreed to include the brochure in regular mailing at no cost. The brochure also directs readers to the new LPC website www.preparelane.org. The website contains links to more information for individuals and families, businesses, schools, community and faith-based organizations, healthcare providers and local government.

Lane County Public Health Officer Dr. Sarah Hendricks who reviewed the brochure said "It has clear and useful information, it's well-presented, and serves as a good, to-the-point, information piece."

The FireMed website <u>www.firemed.org</u> features a link to a 20 minute streaming video outlining what a pandemic illness might actually look like.

What: Meeting of Lane Prevention Coalition

When: Wednesday, May 14 at 1:30 p.m.

Location: Lane County Public Works, Goodson Room, 3040 N Delta Hwy Eugene

Background: The pandemic illness prevention program will be presented to attendees

Visuals &

Interviews: Lane Prevention Coalition Steering Committee member and presenter,

Springfield Fire Chief Dennis Murphy will be available for interviews.

Background: The Lane Preparedness Coalition wants you to know more about the possible health threat of pandemic illness. Coalition members are working together to assure that all residents of Lane County get information about pandemic illness and individual and family preparedness.

The Lane Preparedness Coalition is comprised of the following members:

- American Red Cross
- Cascade Manor Senior Community
- City of Cottage Grove
- City of Eugene
- City of Florence
- City of Springfield
- Lane Council of Governments
- Lane County Health & Human Services
- Lane County Medical Society
- Lane County Sheriff's Office
- Lane Education Service District
- Lane Transit District
- Pacific Continental Bank
- Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines
- Springfield Public Schools
- United Way of Lane County
- University of Oregon